

and the smoke with which the building was filled. Bagby said that as he straightened up from the bench a tongue of flame darted up the stairway. He threw a bucket of water on it and went to secure more, thinking it but a small fire. When he returned from the hydrant, the entire section about the bench was enveloped in flame.

The watchman threw his bucket of water on the mass of fire and turned back toward the hydrant. As he did so he noticed that the stairway was acting as a due for the draft and that already a sheet of flame separated him from the street door. In desperation, he plunged into the fire and struggled for the exit. Badly scorched about the eyebrows and the head and with his face and hands a mass of blisters, he managed to find his way to the air. Once outside the building, Bagby claims to have sped to the alarm box on the corner and to have sounded the alarm.

FIRE GAINED HEADWAY BEFORE FIRST ALARM

The apparatus was on the scene in a few minutes, but already the entire ground floor of the warehouse was filled with fire, and a second alarm, to be followed a few minutes later by a third, was rung in. Every piece of apparatus, except the suburban companies, was hurried to the scene, and soon had streams playing on the fire. Bagby said that the police ropes were stretched in short order, and that he was unable to get through them. He claims to have stood on the corner and watched the fire until about 3 o'clock, when his burns caused him to go to the Lexington Hotel and summon a physician. He was located there about daylight. He was unable to assign any origin for the conflagration.

For a time it appeared that the department would be unable to get control of the fire, and that the entire block, in which are located many of the principal commission houses and merchandise brokers' establishments as well as the tobacco warehouse, would be a total loss. However, with desperate fighting and by turning the fire into the buildings which had not yet caught, the firemen succeeded in keeping the fire away from most of the Cary Street places.

WIND SWEEPED EMBERS BACK FROM CARY STREET

In this the wind was an able assistant, for it swept the mass of sparks and glowing embers which rose from the warehouse toward the yards of the Southern Railway, and there many of them died without doing more damage. But showers of the sparks fell on the roof of the plant on Virginia Street, and soon fire was spreading out in this locality. Fire companies were transferred there, and the fire was fought desperately for about two hours. The building occupied by F. V. Gunn & Co. tented, and it was impossible to prevent the spread of this fire. The blaze spread to the adjoining buildings, which the Gunn Disinfecting Company, the Federal Sugar Refining Company, the R. A. Coughlin Paper Company and the Fleming Brothers places are located, and soon these buildings were burning briskly.

The wall of the Charles E. Smith building were drenched, and in spite of the heat and sparks, this building was saved. The other buildings on Virginia Street, though, burned like so much tinder, and the fire forced back the throng of people crowded in to the police ropes. It was soon evident that none of these places, except that on the corner, could be saved. The corner stores were prevented from catching, and with the exception of water damage and scorching in the rear, they escaped.

TORROR WAREHOUSE SEETHING MASS OF FLAME

Back at the Crenshaw warehouse the firemen were facing one of the hottest fires in the history of the city. With both of the underground floors a pot of seething flame, the floors above ground became a solid mass of fire. From every window spouted tongues of flame, which licked at the corner of the Shockoe Warehouse, across the narrow alleyway. These walls were drenched and several fires on them were extinguished. From the roof of the Crenshaw building rose a swirling, rolling mass of flame and smoke.

The eaving in of this roof was spectacular. The great sheet of metal and heavy timbers gave way at the corner and collapsed into the building with a crash. Showers of sparks were sent spiraling skyward, where the eddy wind whirled them about in a horribly beautiful spectacle. Underneath the entire building was still enveloped in solid flame, there being but small spaces for smoke. For hours the mass burned brightly and then began to die down as the fuel was consumed and the many streams of water gradually drenched the flames.

FIRE NOT UNDER CONTROL FOR NEARLY THREE HOURS

It was not until the conflagration had been burning for about three hours that the firemen began to have hopes of saving the other buildings on the block. By that time they had succeeded in extinguishing the fires in the rear of the Cary Street houses, with the exception of the L. Neal & Co.'s place, and in getting the blaze in the Virginia Street establishments fairly well under control. They concentrated on these buildings a short time later, and after nearly an hour's fight, succeeded in reducing them to smoldering ruins.

With most of the conflagration out, but with all of the apparatus being kept on the scene should the fire break out again, the work of clearing up the smoldering debris began. Several other companies were working in the Crenshaw Warehouse and in the Neal building as well as in the rear of the buildings on Virginia Street, when Captain Norment, of Engine Company No. 1, on Twenty-fifth Street, near Broad Street, led the four men of his company into the Gunn doorway. Norment was ahead, as he always was, according to Fire Chief Joyner, and Atkinson and Odell were at the mouth of the alley. The three men were dragging the boss into the building. Norment and Odell were next to him had advanced about thirty feet into the building and were playing the stream on the mass of smoldering merchandise when a tank of oil in the Harwood building next door exploded. The tank was located near the partition wall. With the shock of the explosion the already tottering wall gave way.

WALL SUDDENLY FALLS ON COMPANY OF FIREMEN

Buckling near the ground, it simply collapsed. Silently as the weight of a spring-trap the heavy mass of bricks, mortar and metal came down on the men at its base. The crash was so sudden the mass struck the floor with deafening and the air was filled with dust, livid coals and ashes. For a second those who were at work outside the building could not grasp the enormity of the disaster. They stood mutely staring at

the high pile under which their comrades were buried. When the chief commands of the lieutenant and other officers were heard. A score of firemen and policemen leaped into the building and began digging at the hot bricks with their bare hands. Order came from chiefs in a few seconds, and men were rushed to the trucks for picks and shovels. Chief Joyner and Assistant Chiefs Raffe and Wise were notified and hurried to the spot. Then the work of the rescue began in earnest. No time was lost. Every man piled his implement as though his own life depended upon his efforts, and gradually the height of the mass diminished.

INJURED MEN ARE DUG OUT UNCONSCIOUS

Johnson was dug out unconscious. While he was being placed in the patrol automobile, Davenport was located and brought out, also unconscious. Chief Metcalf was given instructions to hurry, and with Policemen Cousins in the rear of the car with the two injured men, dashed for Virginia Street. The emergency run at high speed took them to the institution in short order, and soon surgeons were bringing the injured back to consciousness.

FIREMEN PUSH OVER TOTTERING WALLS

From that time on until the darkness of evening stopped them squads of firemen toiled at pushing over the tottering street walls of the various buildings so the pedestrians might be protected. Before night all of the dangerous walls had been pulled down and the streets were made safe. Today Chief Joyner and Building Inspector Butler will inspect the walls next the alleys and open courts between the buildings, and these will also be razed if they are found to be unsafe.

News of the fire spread throughout the city during the early hours of Sunday morning with great rapidity, and before the fire was an hour old thousands of spectators were crowding the police ropes. From daylight, shortly after which hundreds of those who attended early mass gathered around the scene, until late afternoon every street in the vicinity was crowded with curiosity seekers. Some of them remained at the scene from the early hours of Sunday morning until late last night.

Many of them secured souvenirs of the fire, and those who knew as well as those who did not, were generous in their explanations of the damage done, origin of the fire, and of the manner in which the firemen had saved their lives. And throughout it all, from the sounding of the "three sixes" until the last street wall had been pulled down, the firemen remained on the scene, doing all they could for the firemen and policemen on duty.

CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE OF LOSS IS \$450,000

Robert Lecky, Jr., a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners, and a well-known insurance man, last night gave out an estimate of the damage in which he stated that \$400,000 to \$500,000 loss was a very conservative estimate. He said that the most valuable property had been lost in the Crenshaw building, where the Tobacco Board of Trade, the offices of T. M. Carrington, H. M. Vaughan and John M. Taylor were located. The building with its contents is valued at \$225,000 by Mr. Lecky.

It is thought that the individual losses of the firms on Virginia Street who suffered from the fire were relatively slight. Neal & Co. also did not sustain great damage, and the buildings adjoining this place escaped with practically no damage save from water. All of the concerns were asked last night as to their plans for resuming business, and with the exception of those stated they would open for business today in quarters near their former offices.

It is known that a quantity of materials, the property of the State and the United States government, were stored in the basement of the warehouse, but Adjutant-General W. W. Sale could not be located yesterday or last night, and it was impossible to ascertain the value of this property.

FUNERAL OF VICTIM TAKES PLACE TO-DAY

To-day and to-morrow will bring the funerals of the men who lost their lives in the fire. Captain Norment will be buried from Union Station Methodist Church this afternoon at 4 o'clock. Interment will be in Oakwood. Captain Norment was a man of about fifty years of age. He had been a member of the Fire Department for the last twenty years, during which time he had fought some of the most serious fires Richmond has ever experienced. He is survived by his wife and three children.

W. R. Odell will be buried from his home, 420 North Twenty-third Street, Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment will be in Riverside Cemetery. Odell was serving his second term as a member of the department and took up his duties in July. He is survived by his wife and three children.

The funeral of C. L. Atkinson, a single man, will take place some time Tuesday afternoon, but neither the hour nor the other arrangements had been determined until last night.

Chief Joyner said last night that all of the men, as well as the injured, stood exceedingly high in the department. He said that Captain Norment was one of the best fire-fighters in the department, and that his loss was a considerable one. The chief said that arrangements for details of firemen as pallbearers and honorary pallbearers at the funerals would be made to-day.

MOST DISASTROUS FIRE IN HIS EXPERIENCE, SAYS JOYNER

The fire chief, himself just recuperating from a serious injury, said last night that the Crenshaw Warehouse fire was the most disastrous he could remember. The Jefferson Hotel fire was one of the most spectacular in the history of the city, but there was no loss of life. The Harwood factory fire was another well-remembered conflagration, and two men were injured there, one of whom died later; but again the fatalities fell short of that of yesterday morning.

Chief of Police Werner was also credited with the same views. He said that he could remember nothing so dreadful as the loss of life experienced in the most recent fire. The chief was generous in his praise of the work of the firemen, the electricians, several of whom risked their lives to cut dangerous wires, and the department of his own men.

Cornet Taylor stated last night that doubt as to the origin of the fire would prevent the inquest being held immediately. He will begin it this morning at 10 o'clock, but will adjourn it until Thursday morning at the same hour in order to give time for investigation as to the origin.

Firms having offices in upper floors of the Crenshaw Warehouse building

and which lost valuable papers in the total loss of that building were: Arlington & Rose, Austria-Hungary Consulate, L. Borchers & Co., Carrington & Co., Crenshaw's Planters Tobacco Warehouse, Julius A. Hobson, proprietor, F. W. Lutz & Co., Richmond Tobacco Trade, L. L. Strauss, J. M. Taylor and the Virginia Coal Briquetting Company.

WASHINGTON BELIEVES WEDDING WILL BE SOON

(Continued from First Page.)

man said he was collecting money for the suffering Belgians, and that he was visiting in Baltimore. The man came suspicious, however, and prevented him from entering the church. He protested that he meant no harm, and merely wanted to see the distinguished visitors.

The President and Mrs. Galt decided last night after their return from Philadelphia to make the trip to-day. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wilson and their daughter, Miss Alice, plan to go to Tennessee later this month, and they wanted to meet Mrs. Galt before leaving. After an early breakfast, the President called for Mrs. Galt at her home. The ride to Baltimore was made in ninety minutes. The day was mild, and the members of the party banded themselves up in rugs.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and their daughter were waiting at their apartment, and after a short stay there, the entire party walked several blocks to the Franklin Street Presbyterian Church. The President and Mrs. Galt entered into the service, using the same hymnbook. The pastor, Dr. Harris E. Kirk, prayed that the President be given Divine guidance in the problems confronting him.

The luncheon at Joseph R. Wilson's apartment was strictly a family affair. It was marked by the presentation to Mrs. Galt of a chop platter, painted in gold and ivory tints, by the President's niece.

DRIVE THROUGH STREETS LIVED WITH PEOPLE

When the visitors started back for Washington, they drove from the apartment house through a street lined with people. During the return trip the President's automobile traveled rapidly, but was recognized by many people. A constable in a motorcycle charged the driver of one of the machines following the President with exceeding the speed limit, but made no arrest.

To-night the President had dinner with Mrs. Galt at her home. He will deliver an address to-morrow morning before the Daughters of the American Revolution, and on Wednesday will lay the corner-stone of a new memorial amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery. Mrs. Galt is expected to be present on both occasions. Messages from the rulers of foreign countries, congratulating the President on his coming marriage began arriving at the White House to-day. The first to come was from President Poincaré, of France.

JOHN S. ELLETT DIES AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS

(Continued from First Page.)

Maury, J. Kent Rawley, Henry S. Hotchkiss, Jr., and Hugh Antrim. Honorary—Judge George L. Christian, James D. Crump, A. R. Ellerson

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Banker and Business Man Passes Away



JOHN S. ELLETT.

Joseph B. Beasley, Colonel William H. Palmer, Captain Carlton McCarthy, Colonel John B. Purcell, S. H. Hawes, E. L. Bemiss, L. M. Williams, Herbert W. Jackson, Granville G. Valentine, T. A. Curry, Edwin Pleasants, Charles A. Peple, William M. Hill, James G. Tinsley, O. A. Hawkins, Colonel W. Miles Cary, John R. Cary, General Charles J. Anderson, J. Ludwell Hill, C. H. Watson, Captain John A. Cole, Captain John Lamb, John C. Freeman, Frank T. Sutton, James W. Sinton, Captain William H. McCarthy, D. S. McCarthy, Major Henry C. Carter, James T. Gray, O. Sommers Morton, Dr. W. B. Lorraine and O. G. Flippen.

"Specific Gravity." Parents who may be asked to explain what is meant by "specific gravity"—which even some grown-ups have lately confused with alcoholic strength—might do worse than tell the classical tale of the earliest record of its determination, not in connection with Guinness or Bass, but with a King's crown. You will recall how—a couple of centuries or so before the Christian era—Hiero, King of Syracuse, commissioned a goldsmith to make him a new crown out of a certain weight of pure gold. He was a rogue of a smith, but not cunning enough to bamboozle the greatest of the Greek mathematicians. For when the finished product arrived the King expressed to Archimedes a fear that it might contain an admixture of base metal. To test the matter, Archimedes put the crown into a vessel brimful of water. Into a similar vessel he put an equal weight of pure gold. The latter caused a smaller overflow of water than did the crown, and the correct conclusion was drawn that the crown contained some base (and lighter) metal. The smith saw the gravity of the matter in more ways than one.

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